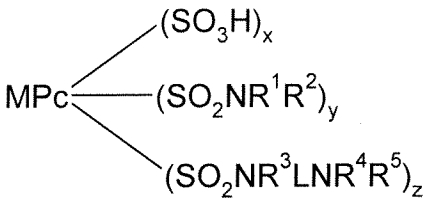
IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes of Formula (1) ~~and~~ or salts thereof:

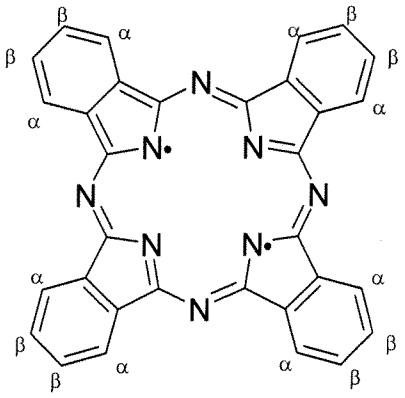


Formula (1)

wherein:

M is Cu or Ni;

Pc represents a phthalocyanine nucleus of formula;



L is optionally substituted C_{1-20} alkylene, alkyenylene or alkynylene, optionally interrupted by –O-, -NH- or -S-;

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 independently are H or optionally substituted C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^5 is H or an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl; or

R^4 and R^5 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered aliphatic or aromatic ring system;

x is 0.1 to 3.8;

y is 0.1 to 3.8;

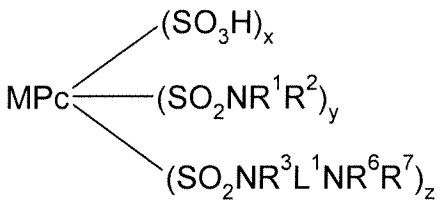
z is 0.1 to 3.8;

the sum of (x+y+z) is 4;

the substituents, represented by x, y and z, are attached only to a ß-position on the phthalocyanine ring; and

the mixture of dyes of Formula (1) are obtainable by a process which comprises cyclisation of ß-sulfo substituted phthalic acid, phthalonitrile, iminoisoindoline, phthalic anhydride, phthalimide or phthalamide in the optional presence of a suitable nitrogen source ~~(if required),~~ and in the presence of a copper or nickel salt, and a base followed by chlorination, amination/amidation.

2. (currently amended): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to claim 1 of Formula (2) ~~and~~ or salts thereof:

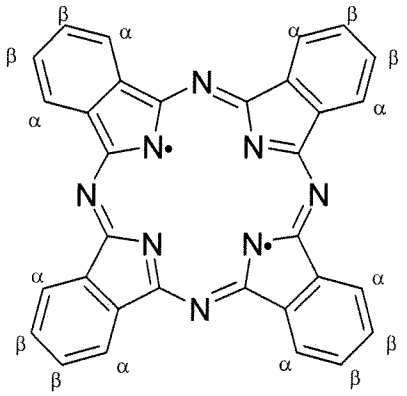


Formula (2)

wherein:

M Cu or Ni;

Pc represents a phthalocyanine nucleus of formula;



L^1 is optionally substituted C_{1-8} alkylene optionally interrupted by –O-, -NH- or -S-;

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^6 independently are H or optionally substituted C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^7 is H, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted alkyl or optionally heterocyclyl; or

R^6 and R^7 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent an optionally substituted 5 or 6 membered aliphatic or aromatic ring;

x is 0.1 to 3.8;

y is 0.1 to 3.8;

z is 0.1 to 3.8;

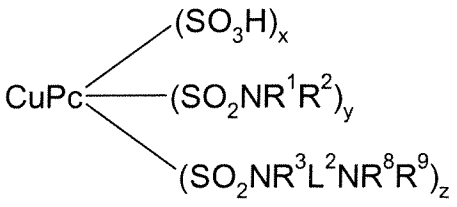
the sum of (x+y+z) is 4;

the substituents, represented by x, y and z, are attached only to a β-position on the phthalocyanine ring: and .

the mixture of dyes of Formula (2) are obtainable by a process which comprises cyclisation of ß-sulfo substituted phthalic acid, phthalonitrile, iminoisoindoline, phthalic anhydride, phthalimide or phthalamide in the optional presence of a suitable nitrogen source ~~(if required),~~ and in the presence of a copper or nickel salt, and a base such as 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU) followed by chlorination, amination/amidation.

3. (original): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein M is Cu.

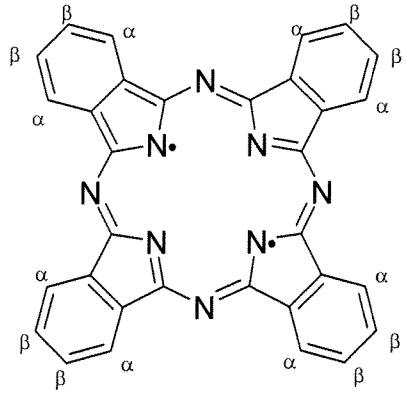
4. (currently amended): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to claim 1 or claim 2 of Formula (3) ~~and~~ or salts thereof:



Formula (3)

wherein:

Pc represents a phthalocyanine nucleus of formula;



L^2 is optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkylene;

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^8 independently are H or methyl;

R^9 is H or phenyl bearing at least one sulfo, carboxy or phosphato substituent and having further optional substituents; or

R^8 and R^9 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aliphatic or aromatic ring;

x is 0.1 to 3.8;

y is 0.1 to 3.8;

z is 0.1 to 3.8;

the sum of (x+y+z) is 4;

the substituents, represented by x, y and z, are attached only to a β-position on the phthalocyanine ring; and .

the mixture of dyes of Formula (3) obtainable by a process which comprises by cyclisation of ß-sulfo substituted phthalic acid, phthalonitrile, iminoisoindoline, phthalic anhydride, phthalimide or phthalamide in the optional presence of a suitable nitrogen source ~~(if required),~~ and in the presence of a copper or nickel salt, and a base followed by chlorination, amination/amidation.

5. (original): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to claim 1 obtainable by a process which comprises cyclisation of 4-sulfo-phthalic acid in the presence of a nitrogen source, a copper or nickel salt and a base.

6. (previously presented): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein x has a value of 0.5 to 3.0, y has a value of 0.5 to 3.0 and z has a value of 0.5 to 3.0.

7. (previously presented): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to claim 1 or claim 2 free from fibre reactive groups.

8. (previously presented): A composition comprising a mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to claim 1 and a liquid medium.

9. (original): A composition according to claim 8 wherein the liquid media comprises a mixture of water and organic solvent or organic solvent free from water.

10. (original): A composition according to either claim 8 or claim 9 wherein at least 70% by weight of the total amount of phthalocyanine dye is of Formula (1).

11. (previously presented): A composition according to claim 8 or claim 9 wherein at least 95% by weight of the total amount of phthalocyanine dye is of Formula (1).

12. (previously presented): A composition that comprises:

(a) from 0.5 to 15 parts of a mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to claim 1; and

(b) from 99.5 to 85 parts of a liquid medium;

wherein all parts are by weight.

13. (original): A composition according to claim 12 that comprises:

(c) from 1 to 5 parts of a mixture of phthalocyanine dyes according to any one of claims 1 to 7; and

(d) from 99 to 95 parts of a liquid medium;

wherein all parts are by weight.

14. (previously presented): A composition according to claim 8 or claim 9 which is an ink suitable for use in an ink jet printer.

15. – 18. (canceled)

19. (previously presented): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes of Formula (1) and salts thereof according to claim 1 wherein M is Cu, R^1, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen, L is $-CH_2CH_2-$ and R^4 and R^5 together with the nitrogen atom complete a morpholine ring.

20. (previously presented): A mixture of phthalocyanine dyes as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 4 wherein the copper salt is $CuCl_2$ and the base is 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU).

21. (currently amended): A process for preparing a mixture of phthalocyanine dyes of Formula (1) ~~and~~ or salts thereof which comprises cyclisation of ß-sulfo substituted phthalic acid, phthalonitrile, iminoisoindoline, phthalic anhydride, phthalimide or phthalamide in the optional presence of a suitable nitrogen source ~~(if required),~~ and in the presence of a copper or nickel salt, and a base ~~such as 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU)~~ followed by chlorination, amination/amidation.